

May 15, 2006

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-06-006

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region IV, Arlington, Texas, staff on this date.

Facility

Bozeman Deaconess Foundation
dba Bozeman Deaconess Hospital
915 Highland Boulevard
Bozeman, Montana 59715
Docket No: 030-33305
License No. 25-10994-04

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: MEDICAL EVENT INVOLVING IODINE-125 SEED IMPLANT

DESCRIPTION: On May 10, 2006, Bozeman Deaconess Hospital (the licensee) notified NRC's Operations Center of a medical event (EN 42566) that occurred during an iodine-125 (I-125) prostate seed implant.

The medical event occurred on May 9, 2006, when 1121.1 megabequerel (30.3 millicurie) of I-125 seeds were implanted while visualizing the prostate using ultrasound. A total of 85 seeds were implanted. Three seeds were recovered after the procedure. The event was identified during a post implant computerized tomography (CT) scan of the patient. The CT scan confirmed that most of the seeds were located in an area surrounding the urethra instead of the prostate. The licensee has estimated that the radiation dose to the unintended site is 145 Gray (14500 rem), which is consistent with the prescribed dose. The patient has been informed and advised of the possible side effects. The licensee stated that no adverse health effects are expected, but plans to continue to monitor the patient with the intent of further treatment later. The licensee has developed preliminary corrective actions to prevent recurrence.

The Region has dispatched an inspector to the licensee's facility to review the event.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence from NRC's Operations Center and obtained additional information via telephone from the licensee. Region IV has informed NMSS. The state of Montana has been notified.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 11:00 a.m. on May 15, 2006.

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML 061350216

CONTACTS: Bob Brown Vivian Campbell
 817-860-8130 817-860-8143